

12.09 hrs.

12.10 hrs.

MESSAGES FROM RAJYA SABHA

SECRETARY-GENERAL : Sir, I have to report the following messages received from the Secretary-General of Rajya Sabha :

(i) "In accordance with the provisions of rule 187 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha, at its sitting held on the 2nd August, 1984, agreed without any amendment to the Multi-State Co-operative Societies Bill, 1984, which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 23rd, July, 1984."

(ii) "In accordance with the provisions of rule 111 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to release a copy of the Sales Promotion Employees (Conditions of Service) Amendment Bill, 1984, which has been passed by the Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on the 2nd August, 1984."

SALES PROMOTION EMPLOYEES  
(CONDITIONS OF SERVICE)  
AMENDMENT BILL

As passed by Rajya Sabha

SECRETARY-GENERAL : Sir, I lay on the Table of the House the Sales Promotion Employees (Conditions of Service) Amendment Bill, 1984.

STATEMENT ON BOMB EXPLOSION IN THE INTERNATIONAL ARRIVAL HALL OF MADRAS AIRPORT ON 2ND AUGUST, 1984

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI KHURSHEED ALAMKHAN) : It is with deep sadness that I have to inform the House about the tragic incident which occurred at Madras Airport on the night of 2nd August, 1984 when, consequent on an explosion, 29 innocent lives were lost and injuries caused to 328 persons. The Prime Minister has condemned the outrage and has expressed her deepest sympathies to the bereaved Sri Lankan and Indian families.

On 4th August, I visited the scene of the explosion and the hospital where the injured are receiving treatment. I am taking the first opportunity to share the information available with Government relating to this incident. Before I narrate the events which led to this incident, I am sure the House will join me in expressing our heart-felt condolences to the bereaved families and sympathy with those who have suffered injuries in this incident.

In conformity with the existing practice at Madras Airport, all baggage prior to its being loaded on the aircraft is required to be identified in the Customs enclosure by the passengers travelling on the flight. On 2nd August, 1984 the identification of the baggage of passengers travelling by Air Lanka Flight UL-122 was carried out by the Customs authorities. With the exception of two suit-cases, all the other baggage was identified by the passengers and loaded into the aircraft. The suit cases which had not been identified in the Customs enclosure, were also taken to the aircraft for identification but no passenger claimed them. These were, therefore, taken into custody by the Customs authorities and kept near the rooms of the Customs Duty Officer in the arrival hall.